

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant** : William D. Cymbal et al.  
**Appl. No.** : Not Yet Assigned  
**Filed** : Concurrently Herewith  
**Title** : STEERING COLUMN ASSEMBLY WITH VERTICAL CAPSULES  
  
**Docket No.** : DP-310238

---

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

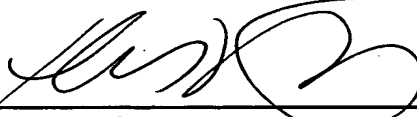
Pursuant to Rule 97 and in compliance with Rule 56, Applicant hereby makes of record the items listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08A. Under the provisions set forth whereby the office waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, Attorney for applicant is not submitting a copy of any of the noted references referred to on the enclosed PTO/SB08A, due to the fact that the above noted application was filed after the above noted date.

None of these items noted on the PTO/SB08A disclose the inventive concepts claimed in the subject application.

Should there be a fee associated with this document, please charge it to Deposit Account No. 08-2789. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

**HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.**



**Robert L. Stearns, Registration No. 36,937**  
The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite #101  
39400 Woodward Ave.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5151  
(248) 723-0427

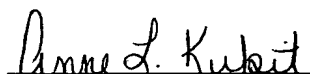
**March 15, 2004**

**Date**

Enclosures:  
PTO/SB08 (1 Pg.)

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the enclosed **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT** and the attached PTO/SB08/A is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No. **EV212249762US** and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on March 15, 2004.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne L. Kubit

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Cymbal et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	DP-310238

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*